

Message Text

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ACTION ACDA-19

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 EA-11 IO-14 ISO-00 ACDE-00 AEC-11 AF-10

ARA-16 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NASA-04

NEA-14 NSAE-00 NSC-07 OIC-04 SP-03 PA-04 PRS-01

RSC-01 SCI-06 SS-20 USIA-15 SAJ-01 DRC-01 /211 W

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P R 141640Z MAY 74

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5736

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

USMISSION NATO

USUN NEW YORK 372

C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 2999

DISTO

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM

SUBJECT: CCD: INFORMAL EXPERTS MEETING ON CW

REF: GENEVA 2916

1. AT MAY 14 PLENARY SWEDISH REP (THORSSON) FORMALLY PROPOSED THAT CCD CONVENE "ONE OR SEVERAL" INFORMAL MEETINGS WITH EXPERTS ON CW DURING SUMMER SESSION, PREFERABLY IN EARLY JULY. SHE REFERRED TO NEED TO HAVE JAPANESE AND OTHER EXPERTS DISCUSS PROPOSED ANNEXES ON THE SCOPE OF THE JAPANESE DRAFT CW TREATY AS WELL AS THE INTERNATIONAL VERIFICATION AGENCY TO
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BE COVERED IN ANNEX 3 OF THE TREATY. THORSSON SAID

HER DEL HOPES TO BE ABLE TO PRESENT A WORKING PAPER WITH MORE DETAILED SUGGESTIONS FOR THE MEETING'S WORK BEFORE THE END OF THIS CURRENT SESSION.

2. JAPANESE REP (NISIBORI) WELCOMED SWEDISH PROPOSAL AND INDICATED THAT HE ENVISAGED EXPERTS MEETING WOULD CONSIDER BOTH JAPANESE AND SOVIET (1972) CW DRAFT CONVENTIONS. HE SAID JAPANESE WOULD PREFER TO HAVE MEETING IN LATTER HALF OF JULY TO ENABLE THEIR EXPERTS TO COMPLETE PREPARATIONS FOR IT BUT ADDED THAT HE WOULD CONTACT TOKYO AND TRY TO HAVE JAPANESE EXPERTS ACCELERATE THEIR PREPARATIONS. UK REP (HAINWORTH) SAID HIS GOVT WILL, IN PRINCIPLE, ENDEAVOR TO PARTICIPATE IN INFORMAL EXPERTS' MEETING BUT THAT ITS EXACT DATES COULD INFLUENCE THE AVAILABILITY OF A UK EXPERT. HE POINTED OUT THAT THE PRESENCE OF A UK EXPERT SHOULD NOT BE CONSTRUED AS INDICATING ANY OFFICIAL UK ATTITUDE, POSITIVE OR NEGATIVE, TOWARDS THE JAPANESE DRAFT, WHICH HE EXPLAINED HIS GOVT WAS STILL STUDYING. HAINWORTH ALSO SAID UK DEL COULD NOT PROMISE THAT THEIR EXPERT WOULD BE PREPARED TO SPEAK ON ALL SUBJECTS THAT MIGHT BE PUT ON AGENDA FOR THE INFORMAL MEETING. NETHERLANDS REP (AMB ROSENBERG POLAK) ALSO SUPPORTED THE SWEDISH PROPOSAL, SAID HIS GOVT WOULD BE READY TO SEND AN EXPERT, AND EXPRESSED A PREFERENCE FOR HOLDING MEETING IN JULY. PAKISTANI REP (AMB NAIK) ALSO SUPPORTED PROPOSAL AND SUGGESTED MEETING BE HELD DURING SECOND WEEK OF JULY. HE STRESSED NEED FOR EARLY DECISION FROM CO-CHAIRMEN ON THE DATE SO AS TO FACILITATE PREPARATIONS FOR THE MEETING.

3. COMMENT: IT IS ESTABLISHED PRACTICE AT CCD THAT ANY DEL MAY REQUEST AN INFORMAL MEETING AND THAT THIS REQUEST THEN BE GRANTED VIRTUALLY AUTOMATICALLY. US HAS TRADITIONALLY TAKEN THE LEAD IN DEVELOPING AND DEFENDING THIS PRACTICE, WHICH OVER THE YEARS HAS SUBSTANTIALLY SERVED US INTERESTS AND OBJECTIVES CONCERNING VARIETY OF ARMS CONTROL ISSUES.

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4. IT IS NATURALLY UP TO EACH MEMBER STATE TO DETERMINE WHETHER IT WISHES TO HAVE AN EXPERT PARTICIPATE IN A PARTICULAR INFORMAL MEETING. IN THE CASE OF THE MEETING THAT HAS NOW BEEN FORMALLY PROPOSED BY THE SWEDES ON THE BASIS OF THE ORIGINAL JAPANESE IDEA, US DEL STRONGLY RECOMMENDS, AS STATED IN REFTTEL, THAT A US EXPERT TAKE PART. USG HAS TRADITIONALLY ADVOCATED EXPERTS MEETINGS IN A VARIETY

OF FIELDS. ITS REFUSAL TO PARTICIPATE ON THIS OCCASION WOULD PROBABLY BE VIEWED BY OTHERS AS A SUBSTANTIAL CHANGE IN POLICY AND WOULD ALSO CONTRAST WITH THE FORTHCOMING ATTITUDE EXPRESSED BY THE SOVIETS TOWARD THIS MEETING. MOST IMPORTANT, IT WOULD COME AS A SHOCK TO THE JAPANESE DEL. IN THIS CONNECTION, IT WILL BE RECALLED THAT OUR GUIDANCE FOR THE SUMMER SESSION LAST YEAR AUTHORIZED THE US DELEGATION TO WELCOME FURTHER PRESENTATIONS BY THE JAPANESE, WHETHER IN THE FORM OF WORKING PAPERS CONTAINING DRAFT TREATY PROVISIONS OR A TREATY OUTLINE. HAVING TAKEN THAT POSITION LAST YEAR, AND HAVING INDICATED TO THE JAPANESE THIS SESSION, AS INSTRUCTED, THAT USG HAD NO OBJECTION TO THE TABLING OF THEIR DRAFT TREATY, WE CONSIDER THAT US REFUSAL TO PARTICIPATE IN THE EXPERTS MEETING COULD CONSTITUTE, IN TERMS OF OUR BILATERAL RELATIONS, A VERY COSTLY AND UNNECESSARILY DAMAGING METHOD FOR DISSOCIATING THE US FROM THE JAPANESE INITIATIVE.

5. IN CONSIDERING US PARTICIPATION, IT SHOULD ADDITIONALLY BE BORNE IN MIND THAT IT IS ALSO THE PRACTICE OF THE CCD, AS ILLUSTRATED IN REMARKS BY BRITISH REP QUOTED ABOVE, TO ALLOW EACH DEL TO DETERMINE THE SCOPE OF ITS EXPERTS' PARTICIPATION IN AN INFORMAL MEETING. WE HAVE NO DOUBT THAT PARTICIPATION BY US EXPERTS IN THIS CASE CAN BE RESTRICTED TO GENERAL CONSIDERATIONS, AS OPPOSED TO SPECIFIC ASPECTS OF THE JAPANESE DRAFT, AN THAT THIS CAN BE DONE WITHOUT PREJUDICE TO ANY FUTURE POSITION THE US MIGHT WISH TO ADOPT ON THE CW QUESTION. END COMMENT.

6. THE CO-CHAIRMEN WILL BE CONSULTING THURSDAY
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MORNING MAY 16 AT 10A.M. TO DECIDE THE DATE FOR THE OPENING OF THE INFORMAL EXPERTS MEETING. WE WILL IN MEANWHILE BE IN TOUCH WITH OTHER INTERESTED DELS TO LEARN THEIR PREFERENCE AS FAR AS TIMING IS CONCERNED. ASSUMING THAT JAPANESE WILL HAVE RECEIVED FURTHER GUIDANCE FROM TOKYO ABOUT POSSIBILITY OF BEING READY FOR MEETING IN EARLY JULY, CO-CHAIRMEN MAY BE ABLE TO DEVELOP A CONSENSUS TO PERMIT AN ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE OPENING DATE FOR THE EXPERTS' MEETING AT THE MAY 16 PLENARY. AS TO THE QUESTION OF US PARTICIPATION, WE WOULD HOPE TO HAVE THE INSTRUCTIONS REQUESTED IN REFTEL REFLECTED IN THE US STATEMENT PLANNED FOR DELIVERY ON CLOSING DAY OF THIS SESSION, MAY 23.ABRAMS

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